



Archie
COMICS

SEGA

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COLLIDE**
IN 5

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

ISSUE 243



ENDANGERED SPECIES

PART ONE

ARCHIECOMICS.COM



Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!!

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

PREVIOUSLY...

THE DEATH EGG STRIKES AGAIN!

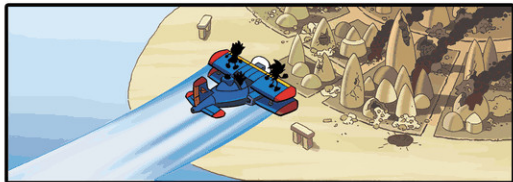
Sonic the Hedgehog is leading Tails and Amy around the world as Team Fighters – a strike team for justice! They've been tracking down Dr. Eggman and the Death Egg II to stop his evil ways and rescue one of their own: the roboticized and weaponized Princess Sally Acorn.



Dr. Eggman planned on using the World Robotcizer aboard his Death Egg II to devastate the planet and bend it to his will. Sally inverted the beam, severely damaging the flying fortress, but turning herself into a robot slave. Dr. Eggman modified her into a killing machine and has used her to lead attacks across the world. Only Team Fighters has been able to stop her and keep Dr. Eggman on the run.

But Dr. Eggman will do anything to throw Team Fighters off the trail, including sending an invasion force to the Echidna homeland. The Echidnas have suffered through much as of late, leaving only a small population of survivors. It wouldn't take much to destroy their kind entirely.

It's a race against time as Sonic and Team Fighters must save this endangered species...



Who's Who



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SUPER SPEEDY HERO



MILES "TAILS" PROWER
SONIC'S BEST FRIEND



AMY ROSE
MAGICAL HAMMER GIRL



KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA
THE LAST GUARDIAN OF ANGEL ISLAND



THE ECHIDNA
HOMELAND.

YOUNG
MAN...

...IF YOU'D REJOIN
THE REST OF
THE CLASS...

...WE'LL
CONTINUE
THE DAY'S
LESSON.

THREE DAYS
AGO...

AS I WAS
SAYING--

--OUR KIND ORIGINATED HERE THOUSANDS
OF YEARS AGO. THEN, CENTURIES AGO, OUR
ANCESTORS CREATED A COLONY ON
DOWNUNDA.

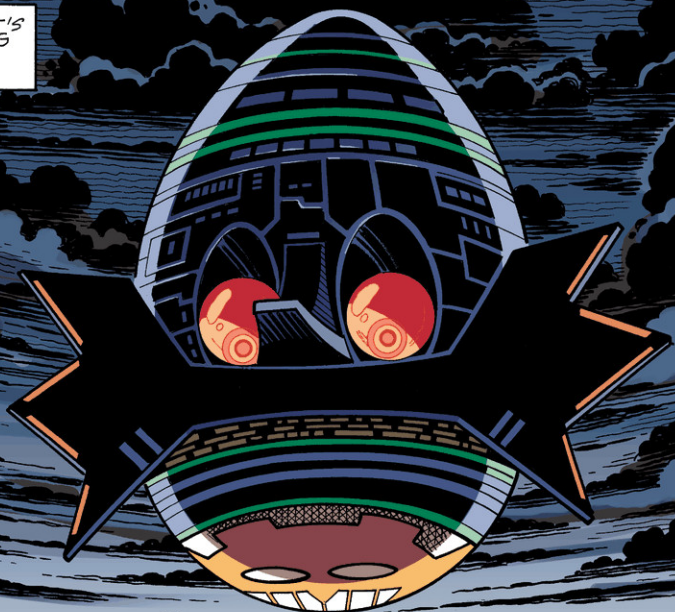
BETWEEN THE THREATS OF DINGO
RAIDS, TASMANIAN DEVIL DOGS,
AND CELESTIAL DISASTERS,
THE COLONY WAS
RAISED INTO THE SKY
WITH THE CHAOS
EMERALDS TO
CREATE ANGEL
ISLAND.

NOW, AFTER THE "DAY OF
TRANSIT", * ALL OF
ECHIDNA KIND IS RE-
UNITED RIGHT HERE
IN OUR HOMELAND.
JUST... TAKE
YOUR SEAT,
PLEASE!

BUT--
BUT-- BUT!
THERE'S A
GIANT EGG IN
THE SKY.

*STH
#180-
184.

"...AND IT'S
LOOKING
RIGHT
AT ME!"



ENDANGERED SPECIES

Part One: **ON THE BRINK**

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INKS: TERRY AUSTIN
COLORS: MATT HERMS
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN

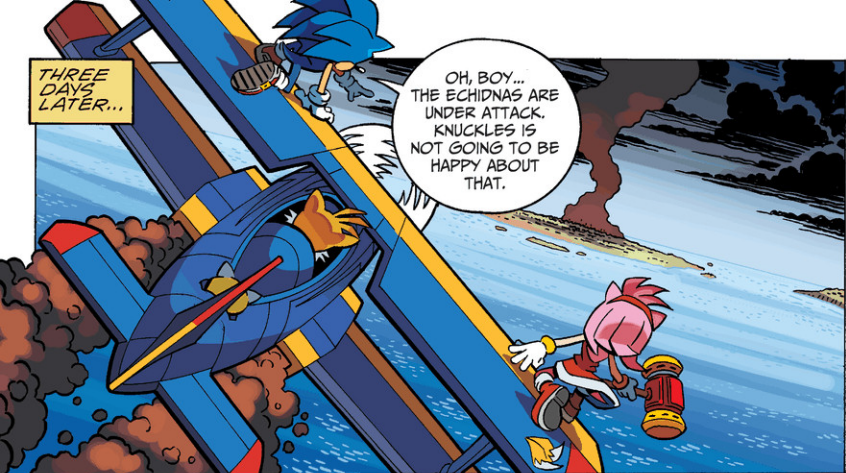
COVER BY
TRACY YARDLEY!
AND **MATT HERMS**



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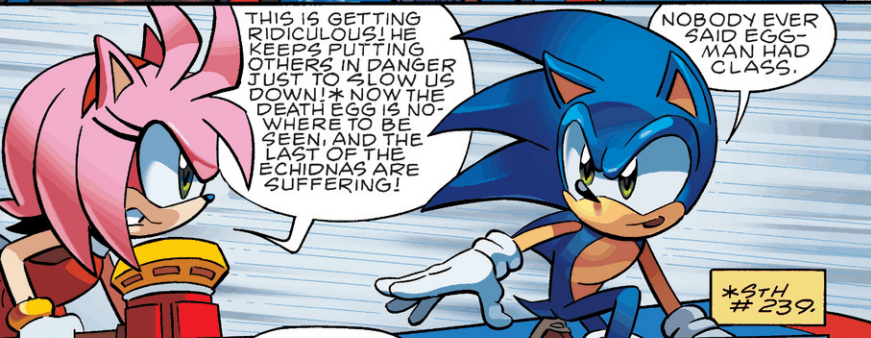
THREE
DAYS
LATER...

OH, BOY...
THE ECHIDNAS ARE
UNDER ATTACK.
KNUCKLES IS
NOT GOING TO BE
HAPPY ABOUT
THAT.



THIS IS GETTING
RIDICULOUS! HE
KEEPS PUTTING
OTHERS IN DANGER
JUST TO SLOW US
DOWN! * NOW THE
DEATH EGG IS NO-
WHERE TO BE
SEEN, AND THE
LAST OF THE
ECHIDNAS ARE
SUFFERING!

NOBODY EVER
SAID EGG-
MAN HAD
CLASS.



*STH
239.

WE'LL
CATCH UP TO THE
DOC LATER.
TAKE US IN FOR A
LANDING, TAILS!
TIME TO DISH OUT
SOME HEROIC,
TEAM-FIGHTERS-
STYLE!



WHOA!

OH, CUTE!
NOW THERE'S
A METAL
KNUCKLES!

AT LEAST
THE DOC IS GIVING
ME A VARIETY
OF THINGS TO
SMASH!

SHHING!

SHHING!



SONIC!

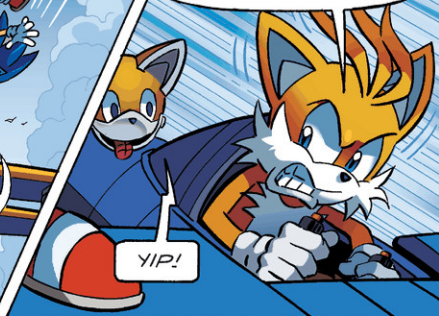
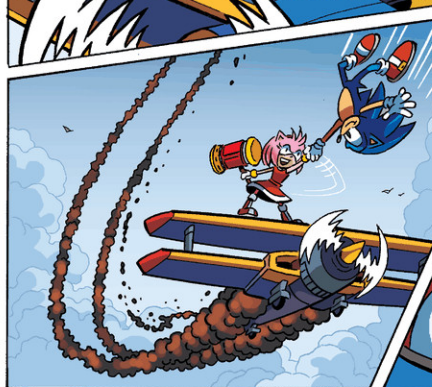
WELL,
NOW...
THAT WAS
JUST
EMBAR-
RASSING...

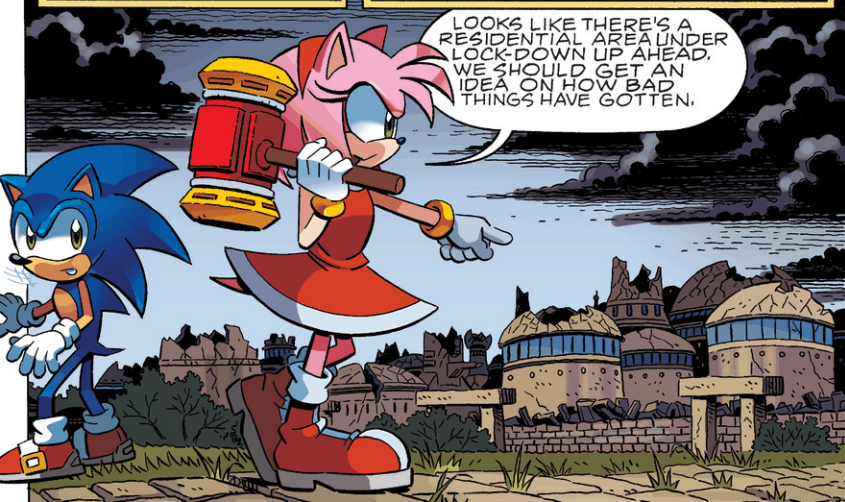
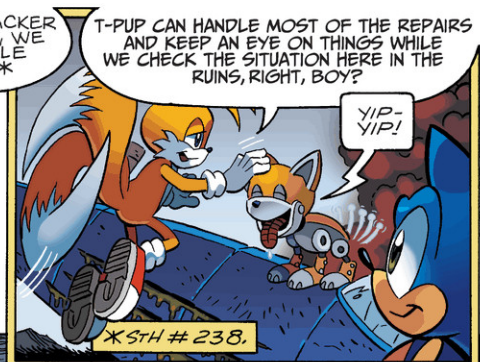
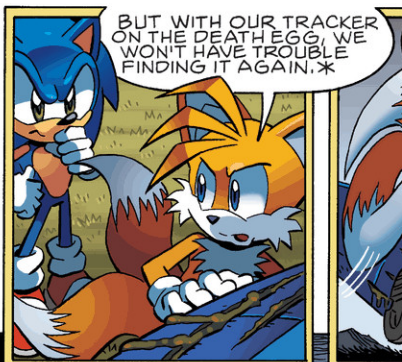
CLANG!

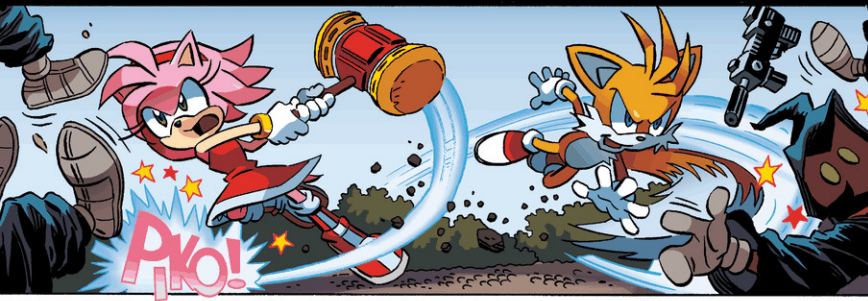
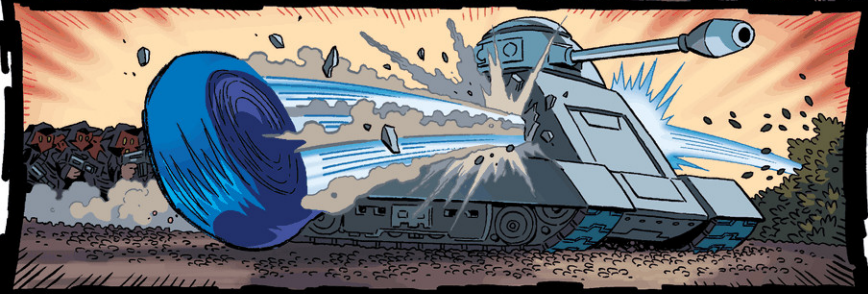
WHOA!
STOP
WRECKING
MY PLANE!

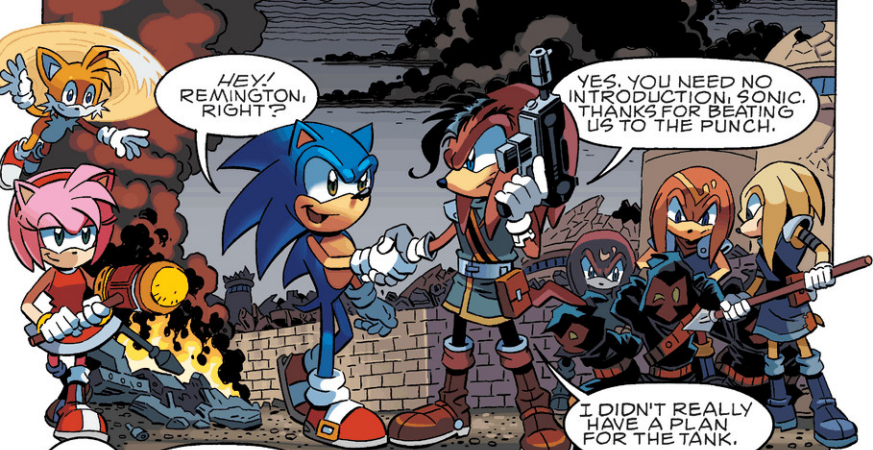


HE HIT
THE FUEL TANK!
T-PUP, SEE IF YOU
CAN STEM THE FUEL
LOSS WHILE I LAND US!









HEY! REMINGTON, RIGHT?

YES, YOU NEED NO INTRODUCTION, SONIC. THANKS FOR BEATING US TO THE PUNCH.

I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE A PLAN FOR THE TANK.

NO PROB.

IT'S WHAT TEAM FIGHTERS IS ALL ABOUT.

H!! I'M TAILS!

...BUT I'LL HAPPILY TAKE ALL THE HELP I CAN GET.



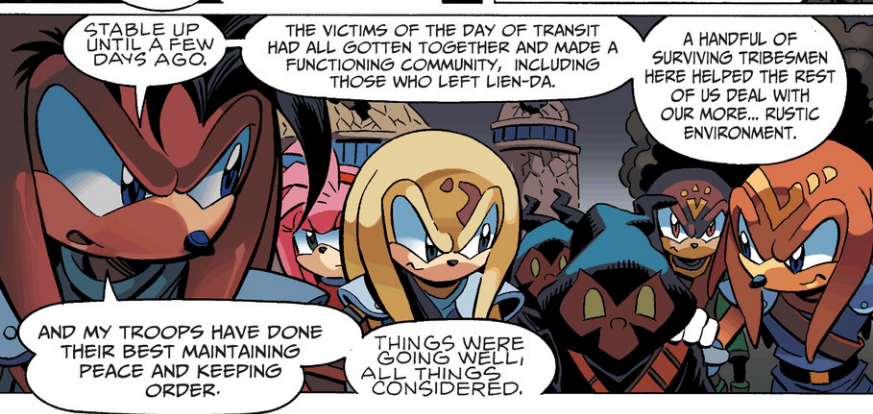
GIVE IT A REST!

I'M AMY ROSE.

IT'S A PLEASURE AND AN HONOR. I'VE BEEN TRYING TO REACH ANGEL ISLAND FOR DAYS TO NO AVAIL...



ER...ANYONE BESIDES KNUCKLES MIGHT BE HARD TO COME BY, REMMY. WHAT'S THE SITUATION HERE?



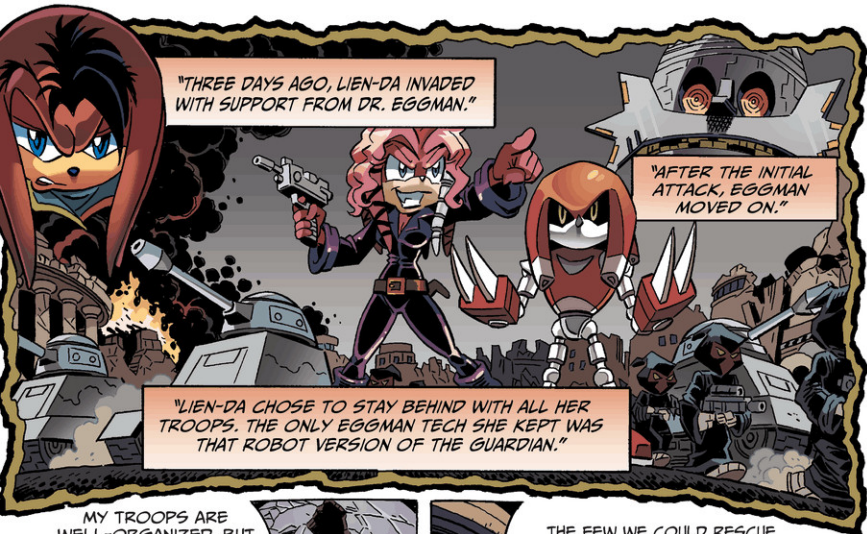
STABLE UP UNTIL A FEW DAYS AGO.

THE VICTIMS OF THE DAY OF TRANSIT HAD ALL GOTTEN TOGETHER AND MADE A FUNCTIONING COMMUNITY, INCLUDING THOSE WHO LEFT LIEN-DA.

A HANDFUL OF SURVIVING TRIBESMEN HERE HELPED THE REST OF US DEAL WITH OUR MORE... RUSTIC ENVIRONMENT.

AND MY TROOPS HAVE DONE THEIR BEST MAINTAINING PEACE AND KEEPING ORDER.

THINGS WERE GOING WELL! ALL THINGS CONSIDERED.



"THREE DAYS AGO, LIEN-DA INVADDED WITH SUPPORT FROM DR. EGGMAN."

"AFTER THE INITIAL ATTACK, EGGMAN MOVED ON."

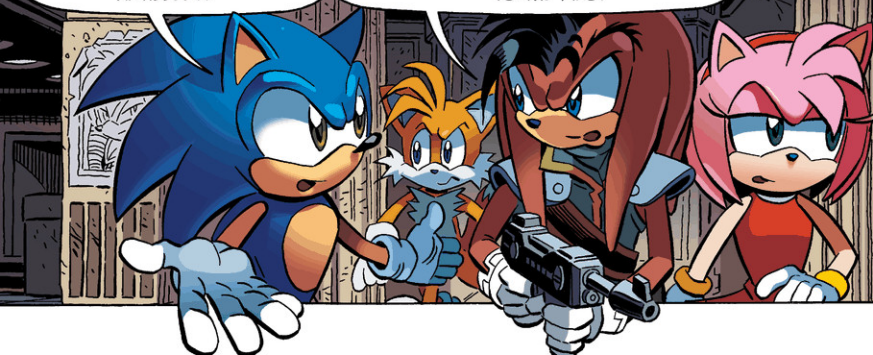
"LIEN-DA CHOSE TO STAY BEHIND WITH ALL HER TROOPS. THE ONLY EGGMAN TECH SHE KEPT WAS THAT ROBOT VERSION OF THE GUARDIAN."

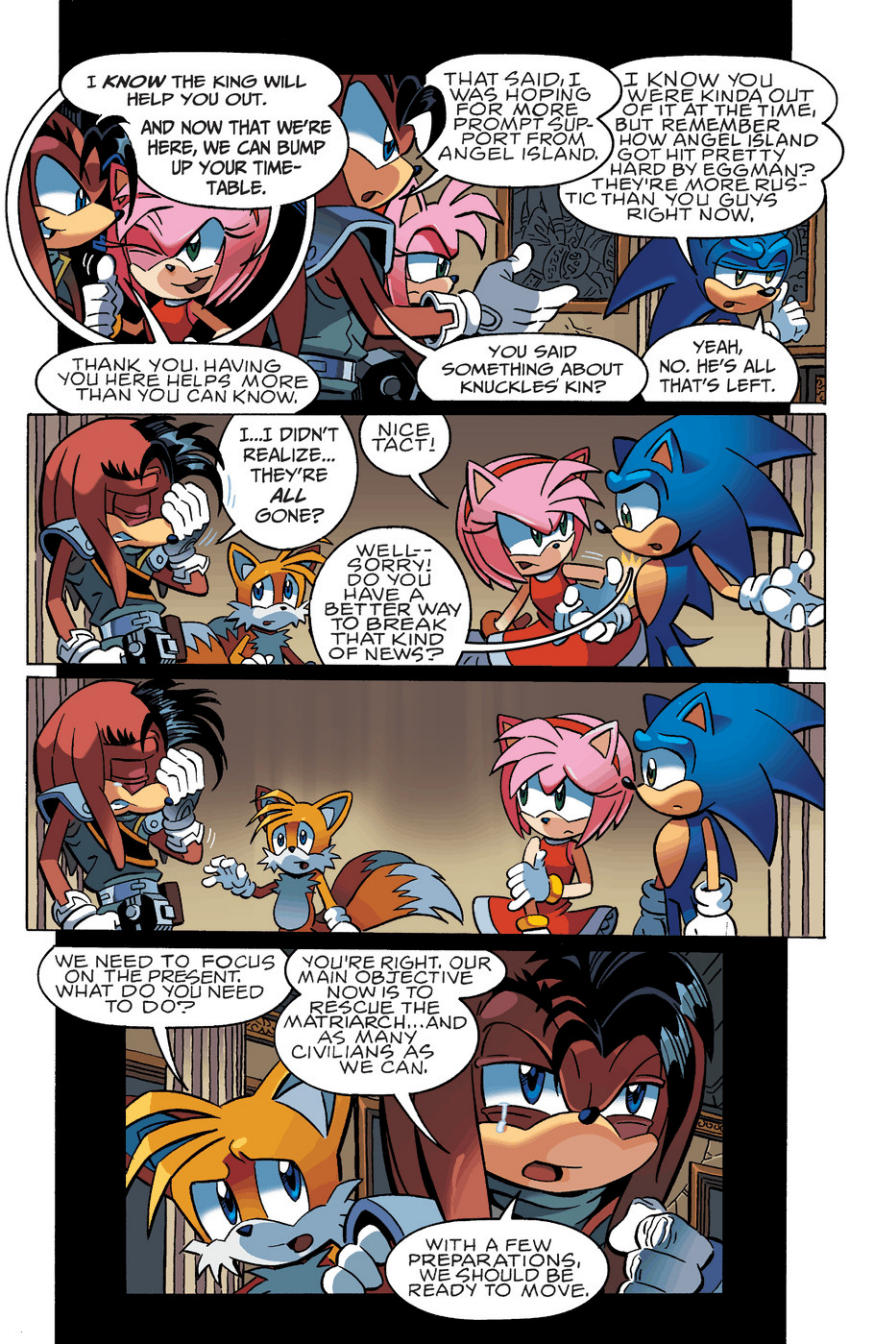
MY TROOPS ARE WELL-ORGANIZED, BUT WE COULDN'T STAND AGAINST THAT KIND OF FIREPOWER. THE ENEMY CAPTURED THE MATRIARCH AND MOST OF THE CITIZENS.

THE FEW WE COULD RESCUE ARE SECURED IN THAT RESIDENTIAL AREA WHERE WE MET. WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO LIBERATE MORE WHILE TAKING DOWN ENEMY TROOPS WHERE WE CAN. OUR BASE CAMP IS HERE IN THIS THEATER.

WE SAW YOUR DEFENSES. THEY'RE GOOD, BUT THEY WON'T HOLD AGAINST THE HEAVY ARTILLERY.

I KNOW. WE'VE BEEN ORGANIZING AN ESCAPE TO THE MAINLAND, AND WE PLAN TO HIDE THE CITIZENS IN THE MERCIAN FORESTS AND APPEAL TO THE KING.





I KNOW THE KING WILL
HELP YOU OUT.

AND NOW THAT WE'RE
HERE, WE CAN BUMP
UP YOUR TIME-
TABLE.

THAT SAID, I
WAS HOPING
FOR MORE
PROMPT SUP-
PORT FROM
ANGEL ISLAND.

I KNOW YOU
WERE KINDA OUT
OF IT AT THE TIME,
BUT REMEMBER
HOW ANGEL ISLAND
GOT HIT PRETTY
HARD BY EGGMAN?
THEY'RE MORE RUS-
TIC THAN YOU GUYS
RIGHT NOW.

THANK YOU. HAVING
YOU HERE HELPS MORE
THAN YOU CAN KNOW.

YOU SAID
SOMETHING ABOUT
KNUCKLES' KIN?

YEAH,
NO. HE'S ALL
THAT'S LEFT.

I...I DIDN'T
REALIZE...
THEY'RE
ALL
GONE?

NICE
TACT!

WELL--
SORRY!
DO YOU
HAVE A
BETTER WAY
TO BREAK
THAT KIND
OF NEWS?

WE NEED TO FOCUS
ON THE PRESENT.
WHAT DO YOU NEED
TO DO?

YOU'RE RIGHT, OUR
MAIN OBJECTIVE
NOW IS TO
RESCUE THE
MATRIARCH...AND
AS MANY
CIVILIANS AS
WE CAN.

WITH A FEW
PREPARATIONS,
WE SHOULD BE
READY TO MOVE.

"PRAY THEY
HAVEN'T
ALREADY
BEEN
LEGIONIZED."



YOU'RE LATE WITH YOUR
REPORT!

SORRY ABOUT THAT,
DOCTOR. IT TOOK US
AN EXTRA DAY TO
GET THE COMM
TOWER BUILT AND
ONLINE.



HMPH!
FINE.
WHAT'S
YOUR
STATUS?

WE'VE CAPTURED
MOST OF THE CITH-
ZEN'S AND THE
MATRIARCH.

THE
WHO?

→SIGH←THE
CURRENT HEAD
OF GOVERNMENT.
WE HAVE HER
ADVISORS, TOO.



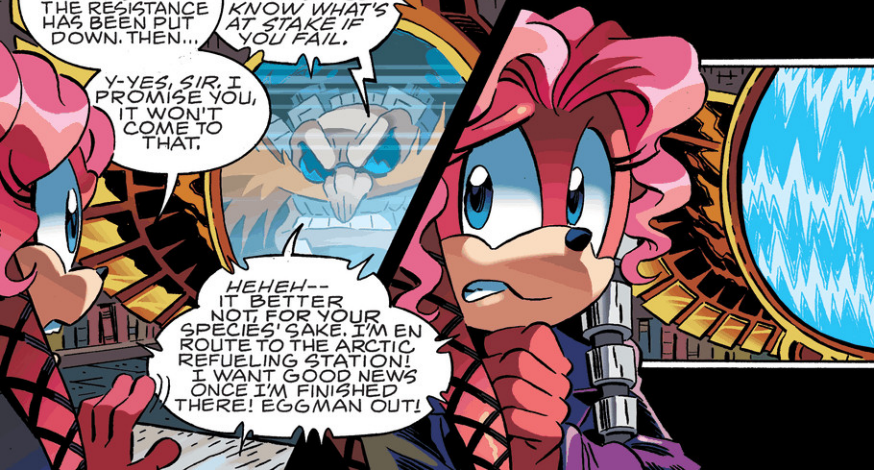
WHATEVER.
ARE THEY
LEGIONIZED YET?

N-NO, I'M
WAITING UNTIL
THE LAST OF
THE RESISTANCE
HAS BEEN PUT
DOWN, THEN...

DON'T DRAG
YOUR FEET
ON THIS. YOU
KNOW WHAT'S
AT STAKE IF
YOU FAIL.

Y-YES, SIR, I
PROMISE YOU,
IT WON'T
COME TO
THAT.

HEHEH--
IT BETTER
NOT, FOR YOUR
SPECIES' SAKE, I'M EN
ROUTE TO THE ARCTIC
REFUELING STATION!
I WANT GOOD NEWS
ONCE I'M FINISHED
THERE! EGGMAN OUT!





ATTENTION, FELLOW ECHIDNAS! I'VE JUST FINISHED SPEAKING WITH DR. EGGMAN. YOUR FUTURE IS LOOKING BRIGHT!

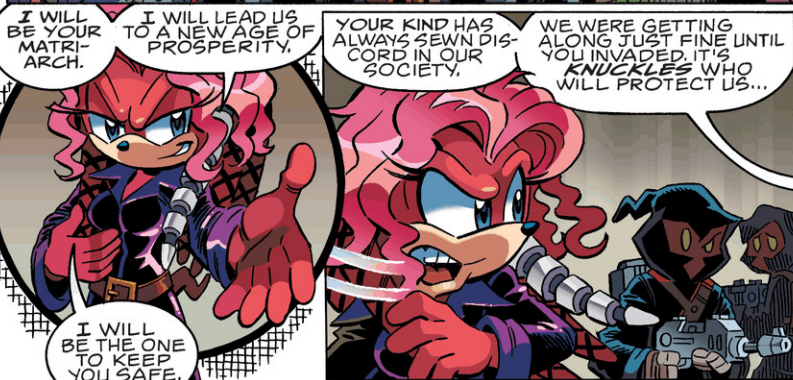


SOON YOU WON'T HAVE TO LIVE IN FEAR OF THE EGGMAN EMPIRE.

SOON WE WILL NO LONGER BE DIVIDED...

...BY DISTANCE, FACTIONS OR BELIEFS.

SOON ALL ECHIDNA KIND WILL BE UNITED UNDER MY LEADERSHIP.



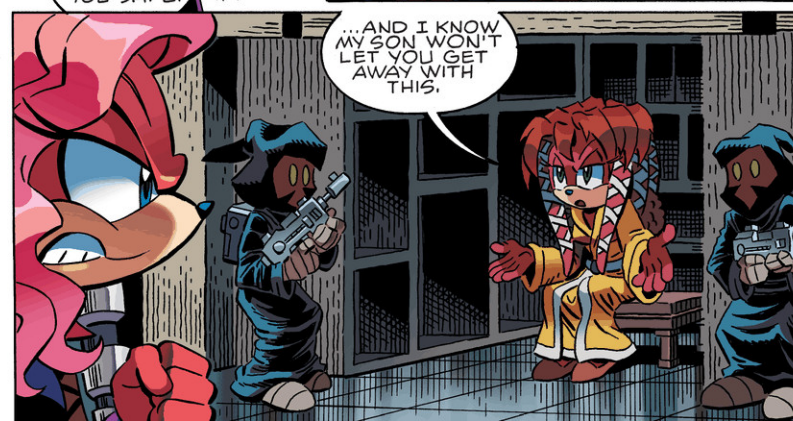
I WILL BE YOUR MATRI-ARCH.

I WILL LEAD US TO A NEW AGE OF PROSPERITY.

YOUR KIND HAS ALWAYS SEWN DISCORD IN OUR SOCIETY,

WE WERE GETTING ALONG JUST FINE UNTIL YOU INVADDED. IT'S **KNUCKLES** WHO WILL PROTECT US...

I WILL BE THE ONE TO KEEP YOU SAFE.



...AND I KNOW MY SON WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY WITH THIS.



OH, YES! THE
GUARDIAN! THE ONE
WHO COULDN'T STOP
YOU FROM BEING
ENSLAVED!

THE ONE WHO
WAS NOWHERE
TO BE FOUND
ON THE DAY OF
TRANSIT?

THE ONE
WHO HASN'T
SHOWN HIMSELF
HERE?

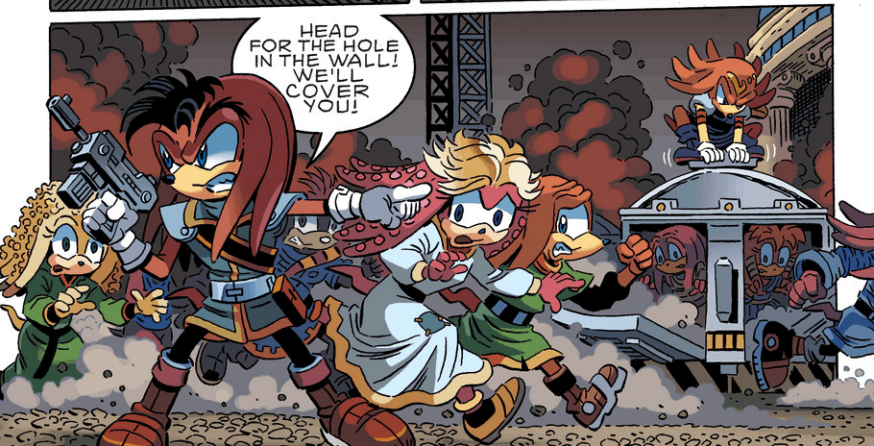
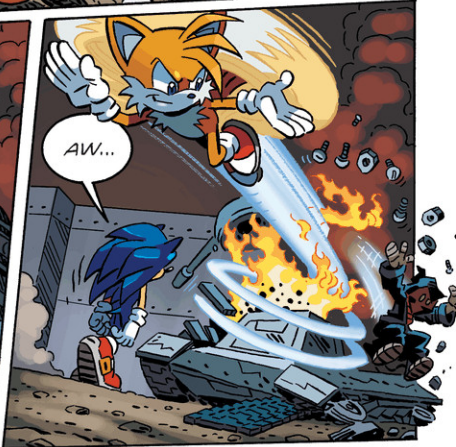
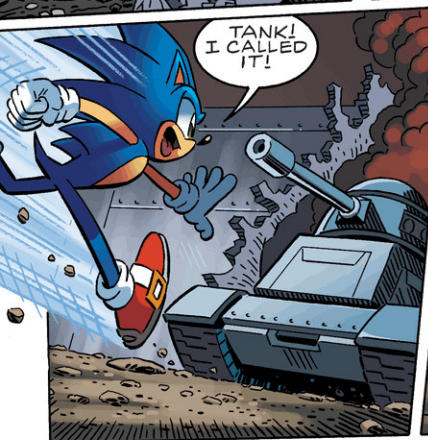
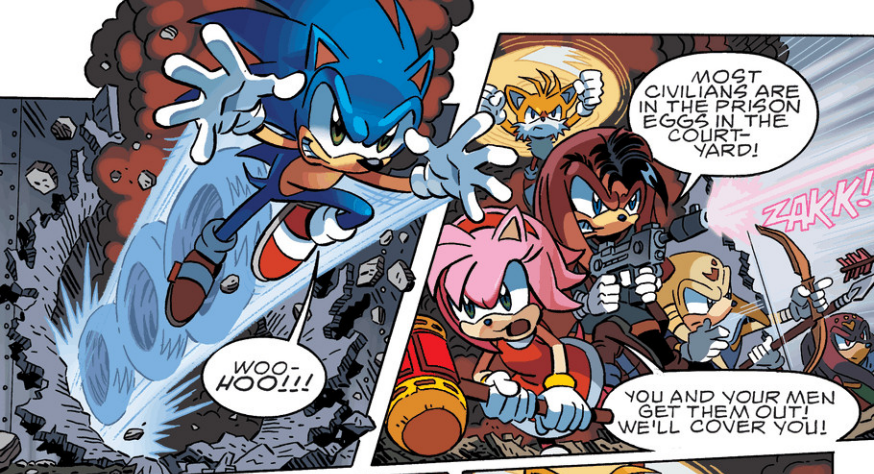
AND WHY SHOULD
WE LISTEN TO
YOU?
YOU MAY BE
MATRIARCH, BUT
YOU'VE HAD NO
GOVERNING
EXPERIENCE.
YOU WERE
CHOSEN SOLELY
FOR YOUR CONNEC-
TION TO
KNUCKLES!

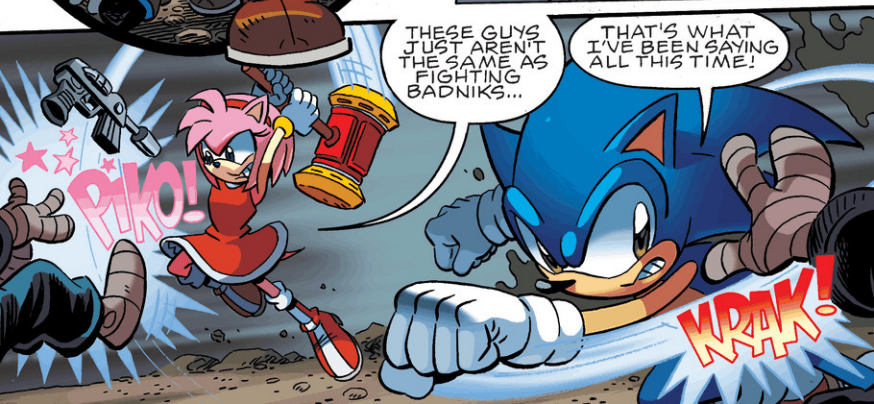
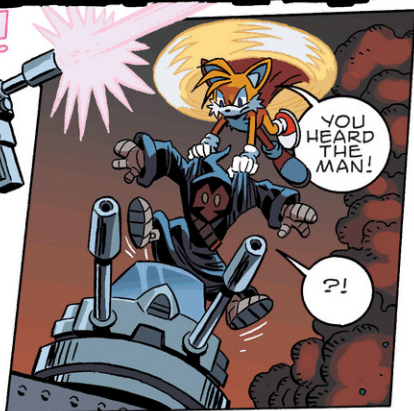
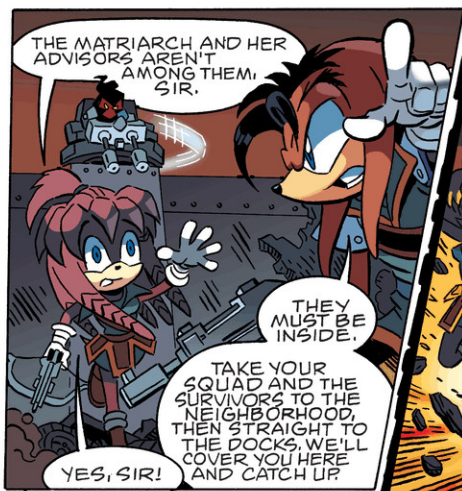
I PUT MY FAITH IN THE
GUARDIAN WHO FOUGHT
EGGMAN INSTEAD OF
ALLYING WITH HIM. I PUT
MY FAITH IN THE GUAR-
DIAN THAT PROTECTED
OUR SOCIETY, AND NOT
THE COWARDS WHO
TERRORIZED US, FELL
APART IN THEIR OWN
CIVIL WAR, AND HAVE
BEEN REDUCED TO A
HANDFUL OF FANATICS
AND FLUNKIES.

YOU'RE LUCKY
I NEED YOU FOR
YOUR STATUS, YOU
IGNORANT WOMAN.

YOU WOULDN'T
BE HALF AS
POMPOUS IF YOU
KNEW **KNUCKLES**
WAS --

WE'RE
UNDER
ATTACK!







THE MATRIARCH AND OTHER HIGH-LEVEL TARGETS MUST BE INSIDE. WE NEED TO PUSH DEEPER.

MIGHT AS WELL KICK ALL THE BUTTS WHILE WE'RE HERE...

...RIGHT?

SONIC'S HERE? YOU'RE SURE?

YES, MA'AM!

EGGMAN'S SETTING ME UP TO FAIL...

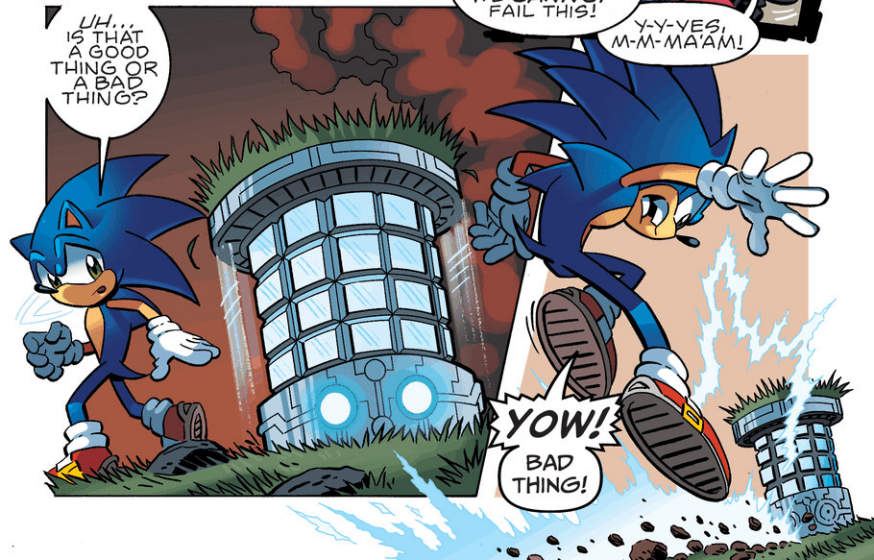
DID WE GET THE BUILDING'S DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS BACK ONLINE?

J- JUST THIS MORNING...

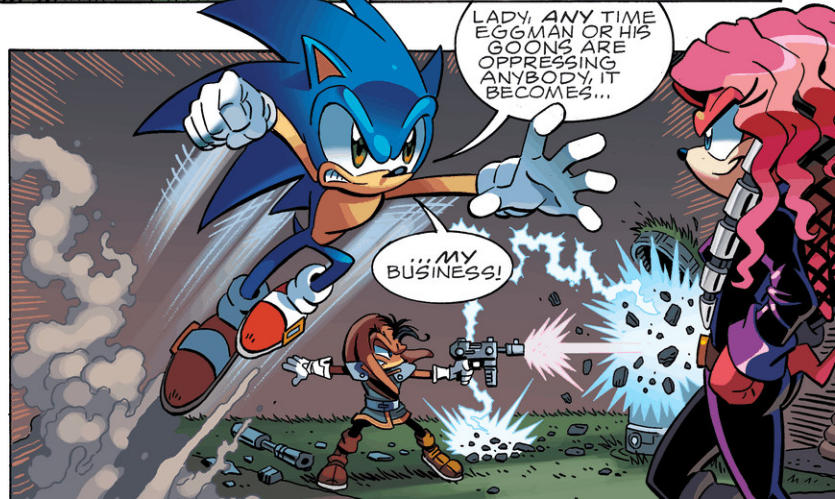
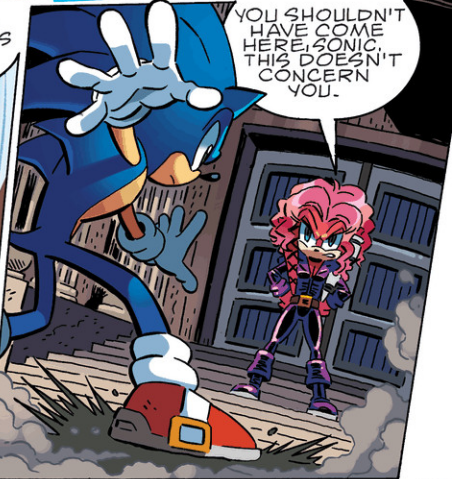
UH... IS THAT A GOOD THING OR A BAD THING?

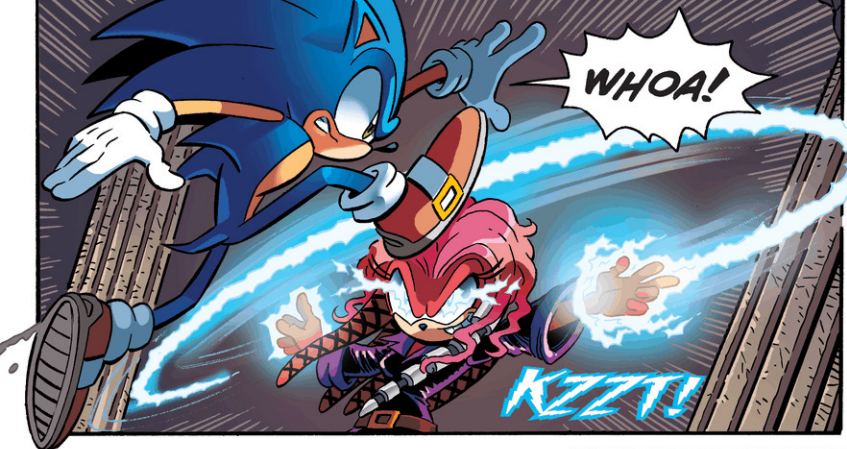
THEN ACTIVATE THEM! WE CANNOT FAIL THIS!

Y-Y-YES, M-M-MA'AM!



YOW!
BAD THING!







MAYBE NOT...



...BUT METAL KNUCKLES SHOULD SWING THINGS IN MY FAVOR.

THOOM



OH, YEAH. THAT MIGHT MAKE THINGS HARDER FOR ME.

KRAK!



MEANWHILE
--ANGEL
ISLAND.

--I EVEN--
HOLD ON.
I'M DETECT-
ING ANOTHER
SIGNAL TRYING
TO REACH YOU.

ANOTHER
SIGNAL?
WHO'D BE
TRYING TO
REACH ME
HERE?

--DON'T KNOW IF ANYONE WILL
--KSHK!!-- WE ARE UNDER
--WRT!-- REPEAT, UNDER
ATTACK. --ZZT!-- DEATH EGG
--KSHK!-- EGGMAN'S TROOPS
SEND HELP.

THIS MESSAGE --KSHT!--
TO LOOP. THIS IS REM-
--KZZZT!-- FROM
--KZZT!-- I DON'T
KNOW IF ANY --KSSSS
SSSHK!--

MY PEOPLE...THE
LAST OF MY KIND...
THE ONES I FAILED...
BETRAYED...

BUT I'M THE GUARDIAN.
THEY NEED MY HELP, AND
IT'S MY DUTY TO SAVE
THEM, EVEN IF IT WILL
BE HARD TO LOOK
THEM IN THE EYE.

I BETTER
RALLY THE GIRLS
AND GET MOVING...

**KNUCKLES IS ON THE WAY--
THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET
PERSONAL!**

**DON'T MISS THE SHOCKING
THROWDOWN NEXT TIME!**

**UNTIL THEN, CHECK OUT MORE
CHAOTIX ACTION IN SONIC UNIVERSE
AND DON'T MISS OUT ON THE
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE and
GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!**



the SONIC SPIN

It's commentary of the endangered "editorial" species!

ECHIDNAS! ECHIDNAS EVERYWHERE!

Welcome back, Sonic fans, to the first installment of the four-part "ENDANGERED SPECIES" epic! That's right, kids, this winter is all about the rad red, as we witness the most shocking, game-changing story arc that Echidna-kind has ever faced!

And that's not all! Over in our sister title, **Sonic Universe**, we launch into a brand new story arc this month featuring Knux's bud's the **Chaotix** as they track down their missing teammates **Mighty** and **Ray**! It's the story you've all been waiting for, and it's **ONLY** in Sonic Universe #46-49, "CHAOTIX QUEST"!

For more Knuckles action be sure to check out the Knuckles Archives Graphic Novel series, and while you're at it, Sonic Universe vol3 Graphic Novel features the titanic "Knuckles Returns" story arc! All these great comics and graphic novels to choose from - **it's a rockin' red read!**



THE SEARCH FOR MIGHTY AND RAY IS ON!
JOIN TEAM CHAOTIX IN THE BRAND NEW-
FOUR ISSUE STORY ARC, "CHAOTIX QUEST"
HAPPENING NOW IN SONIC UNIVERSE!

CHECK OUT KNUCKLES' VERY OWN STORY ARC IN SONIC UNIVERSE VOLUME 3, AVAILABLE NOW AT A FINE BOOK STORE NEAR YOU AND FOR DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ON YOUR FAVORITE MOBILE DEVICE!

SEE YA NEXT MONTH! - Paul

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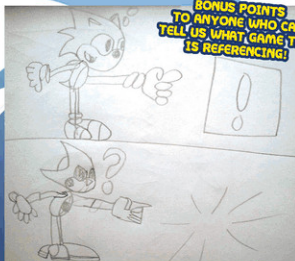
SONIC-GRAMS! FAN ART

FAN FUNNIES!

Will K. sent to
sonic@archiecomics.com



Melissa J.S.
from Leicester, UK



**BONUS POINTS
TO ANYONE WHO CAN
TELL US WHAT GAME THIS
IS REFERENCING!**

Jaxx Howard. sent to
sonic@archiecomics.com



Elizabeth S. sent to
sonic@archiecomics.com

HEY, KIDS!

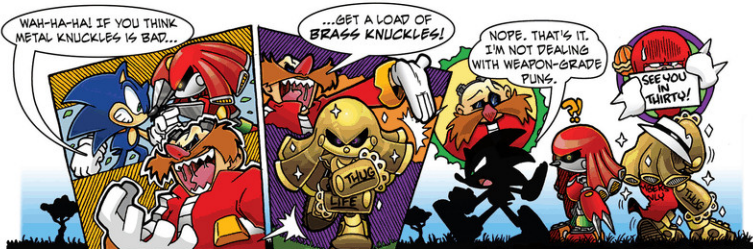
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SONIC FAN ART OR FAN
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SEND YOUR ART TO :

MY SONIC FAN ART/FUNNIES C/O
ARCHIE COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC.
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E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM



OFF PANEL

SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN
PENCILS/INKS: JONATHAN GRAY
COLORS: ALEAH BAKER





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SONIC-GRAMS

WRITE TO US @: SONIC-GRAMS c/o ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
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LETTERS

DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF FAN RESPONSE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLY TO EACH FAN. SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOME PRINTED LETTERS TO BE EDITED. ALL YOUR LETTERS ARE APPRECIATED!

Dear Sonic-Grams, Hi! I have always been a huge fan of you guys since issue 187, I think (and I'm 14)!

'Twas a fine time to be a subscriber indeed! Though, to be fair, it's always a fine time to be a subscriber! :)

I have a few questions:

1) I saw a few fights between Tails and Speedy, but I would like to see more, actual important battles between them (with Tails winning at the end) because I think they can be huge rivals and Tails is my #1 favorite character!

You haven't seen the last of Speedy! Be sure to check out Tails and Speedy's most recent tussle in Sonic Universe #35, available now for digital download! Plugplugplug

2) Will there be any love relationships between Tails and Cream? This could be really nice! (Cream's my #2).

Tails is a bit preoccupied with his role in Team Fighters for any romance, same goes for Cream who is helping out with Team Freedom. As for any love interests for the two of them, wait and see!

3) Will the Suppression Squad ever return?

Their whereabouts are currently unknown. No doubt they're plotting their next move! After all, they still have some unfinished business with a certain green hedgehog!

Well, thank you for everything, guys! I hope you can answer me (I'm a huge fan!)

Tails's #1 fan,
Nader D.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

Thanks for writing in, Nader!

Yo Sonic-Grams!
Howdy pardner!

I started reading Sonic comics when I was ten. When I first started I was so into it. Also I love Tracy Yardley's Sonic artwork.

So do we! Tracy did all the covers for this story arc, plus pencils on the Sonic Universe title!

Well here are some questions I really wanted to ask.

"Ready all canons, open fire!"

1) Is there going to be a story when Scourge comes back?

Scourge has returned! Download the Scourge Lockdown arc in Sonic Universe

issues 29-32 for your mobile device to see how Scourge escaped zone jail! He's currently plotting in secret with the destructix -- what his next move will be is anyone's guess!

2) When is Sally going to come back I miss her?

Resolution is coming!

3) Lastly, what's with Thrash is he going to come back in a big way?

He certainly is! Stick around and see what Thrash is up to as Endangered Species continues! You will not wanna miss this!

Well, that's it. Keep on jucin!

Daniel George,
from Florida

Thanks, Daniel, the juicing will continue as planned!

That's all for this month, folks! The story continues as the battle in the Echidna homeland reaches a whole new level of chaos! Come back in 30 for next thrilling installment of Endangered Species!

See y'all next month!

NEXT ISSUE: 244



THRASH AT THE DEVIL!

TERROR IS UNLEASHED ON THE ECHIDNA HOMELAND WHEN THRASH THE DEVIL MAKES AN UNEXPECTED RETURN IN "ENDANGERED SPECIES" PART 2 (of 4)
ON SALE THE WEEK OF 1/2/12

NEXT SONIC UNIVERSE: 47



THE SEARCH IS ON FOR MIGHTY AND RAY!
CHAOTIX QUEST
PART 2 (of 4)
ON SALE THE WEEK OF 12/25/12



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